



STETSON LAW

Mission, Vision and Core Value Statement

Mission

Stetson University College of Law provides a dynamic and supportive scholarly community in which students learn, in and outside the classroom and by example, to become outstanding lawyers and leaders who serve the profession and society.

Vision

Stetson University College of Law strives to be a diverse and selective law school whose faculty and students will have a meaningful and far-reaching impact on the law, the profession and society.

Core Values

Stetson University College of Law is committed to teaching, mentoring, skills training, and providing students with a transformative educational experience.

- Teaching and mentoring students is our first priority. The College of Law strives to provide students with a personal educational experience that will transform them into accomplished professionals.
- The College of Law strives to instill in each student a sense of intellectual curiosity and a commitment to life-long learning.
- The College of Law strives to teach students doctrinal law, lawyering skills, and the values traditionally associated with the legal system: honesty, justice, fairness, preparation, competence, self-development, and service.
- The College of Law, throughout its history, has been dedicated to providing students with opportunities to learn and hone lawyering skills, such as advocacy. We reaffirm our dedication to these values.
- The College of Law strives to provide students with the opportunity to acquire the non-academic knowledge, skills, and experience that provide a foundation for professional success.

These values are reflected in:

- professors' desire to work with students beyond the classroom;

- a rigorous yet well-rounded curriculum that includes opportunities to achieve competence in core subjects and in particular fields;
- a commitment to a strong skills curriculum;
- professors' careful assessment of students' abilities;
- recruiting, retaining, and rewarding professors who have a demonstrated passion and talent for teaching;
- a commitment to leadership training and educational opportunities beyond the classroom, and to student wellness;
- recognition for professors who are outstanding teachers and mentors; and
- a commitment to continuing legal education.

Stetson University College of Law is committed to professionalism, ethics, civility, mutual respect, and integrity.

- The College of Law strives to instill in its students a commitment to the highest levels of professionalism, civility, and ethics.
- The College of Law's students, faculty, staff, and alumni should distinguish themselves by acting with the highest levels of integrity in their professional and personal lives.
- The College of Law encourages all members of its community to treat all persons with the highest levels of respect.
- The College of Law values each member of its community as individuals and as integral parts of the educational institution.
- The College of Law welcomes persons of all backgrounds who contribute to, and benefit from, the College in myriad ways.

These values are reflected in:

- courses and programs in professionalism and ethics;
- integration of professionalism, ethics, and civility concepts into many courses in the curriculum and into many continuing legal education programs;
- opportunities for students to learn from and emulate leading members of the bench and bar;
- opportunities for students to develop professional judgment through simulation courses, internships, and clinics;

- effective academic integrity and conduct codes; and
- a commitment to diversity.

Stetson University College of Law is committed to developing a vibrant and dynamic intellectual community.

- The College of Law is committed to developing a vibrant and dynamic intellectual community that will allow for the production of outstanding scholarship and the effective exchange of information and ideas.
- The College of Law values the important work that takes place outside the classroom, including influencing the development of the law in a positive direction and advancing our understanding about law and society through scholarship and practice.
- The College of Law is committed to improving the quality and quantity of scholarship produced by its faculty. We expect professors to develop expertise in their selected fields and to share that expertise both on and off campus.
- The College of Law expects its students to commit themselves to developing their intellectual capacities through active classroom participation, individualized study, clinical and internship experiences, and other academic activities.

These values are reflected in:

- recognition of professors and students who produce outstanding scholarship;
- financial and other support for faculty scholarship and travel;
- a commitment to interdisciplinary work;
- a commitment to an honors program for students;
- programs, such as colloquia, works-in-progress presentations, law review scholarship presentations, and debates that enhance the intellectual climate of the campus and that bring recognized scholars to campus;
- an understanding that the production of scholarship enhances teaching; and
- an appreciation for a broad range of scholarship from theoretical to practical, so long as well researched, well developed, and well written.

Stetson University College of Law is committed to community, access to justice, and stewardship.

- The College of Law strives to be an integral part of the local, state, national, and international communities and to improve the lives of those who have less access to

justice and political power, who have fewer privileges and resources, and who bear the burden of discrimination and mistreatment.

- The College of Law values those with a strong work ethic, a spirit of service and community involvement, a commitment to ethics and civility, and a demonstrated dedication to the highest and best standards of the legal profession.
- The College of Law strives to function as a caring community in which we demonstrate concern and offer support while challenging each other to excel.
- The College of Law is committed to training students to become knowledgeable and compassionate members of the global society.
- The College of Law values those who use its resources wisely and with an eye toward strategic and long-term goals. We must preserve those things that make the institution unique and preserve important aspects of history while understanding our historical shortcomings.

These values are reflected in:

- the College of Law's public service requirement and commitment to pro bono and charitable endeavors;
- programs for the elderly and disadvantaged;
- educational programs for lay members of the community;
- the College's work with the judicial system and various judicial reform efforts;
- programs to teach students to become responsible leaders in the profession and in the greater community;
- programs that teach students to be sensitive to the needs of clients;
- recognizing professors, students, staff, and alumni who have given outstanding service to the community and profession;
- a dedication to international programs and learning opportunities; and
- regular evaluations regarding the use of tangible and intangible resources.

(Adopted April 30, 2005)